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PROD. 15-13

RDA

CIA/BI GB 66-19
20 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Geographic Background to East German Army Exercise with
Live FROG Firing

1. One battery of the East German Army (EGA) 1st Independent Artillery Battalion, subordinated to the 1st Motorized Rifle Division of the EGA, stationed in a casern at UU475293, 1.3 kilometers northeast of Gross Behnitz conducted a live firing exercise on or about 15 October 1965, into the Kleitz training area.

As more information is assembled it may be possible to determine the location of other FROG practice firing sites in East Germany

2. This firing by the 2nd Battery was in conjunction with a battalion exercise probably to determine the capability and readiness of the FROG Battalion. reported that the only other live firing practice within the 1st Battalion took place in the fall of 1964 when the 1st Battery fired in the Weisswasser Training Area near Nochten (VS 7298). each battery was scheduled to practice live firing every other year, in October. It was rumored that a third firing battery would be formed before the end of the year.

3. The mission of the 1st FROG Battalion is probably to provide missile support for the 1st Motorized Rifle Division in its area of responsibility extending northwest of the ring around Berlin. The battalion is to be employed as a completely mobile force and reportedly has preplanned firing positions in the event of hostilities. exercises in the vicinity of Oranienburg, Brueck, Nauen and Brandenburg. It is possible that these exercises actually amounted to familiarization with the area of the preplanned firing positions referred above. The unit practice assembly area was outfitted with a 40 x 60 meter helicopter pad. (In the event of hostilities missiles with nuclear warhead were to be delivered by helicopter within one hour.) It is possible that helicopters pads may be located close to the preplanned sites.

The 1st Battalion sites are all within the area covered by the Berlin Air Control Center and therefore

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suitable US photography should either be available or obtainable. Although the impact area of the October exercise is within a permanent training area, and normal access is denied, the area lies between the north and central air corridors to Berlin and probably can be targeted for oblique photography. It is hoped that enough might be learned from a pilot study such as this to provide keys for locating other sites that are in less accessible areas. Two other EGA FROG battalions are reported to be located near Bad Klosterlausnitz and one near Goldberg. There are probably 20 GSFG (Soviet) FROG battalions but the stations of only 10 have been located.

4. Analysis of the October exercise suggests other information that might be gleaned from further work.

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GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY NOTICE

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| TO: | CHIEF, GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, OGB DIRECTOR OF BASIC INTELLIGENCE |
| THROUGH: | CHIEF, GEOGRAPHY DIVISION, OGB OBI |
| FROM: | CHIEF, EUROPE BRANCH |
| SUBJECT: | GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY NOTICE |

1. SUBJECT

Evaluation of FROG Tactical Missile Deployment and Firing Exercise in East Germany.

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2. PROBLEM

Available information was plotted out on map and evaluated by [REDACTED]. Results will be written up by [REDACTED] MRA, in their monthly speculative report on missile developments. Information developed by [REDACTED] identifies several installations and sites as targets for intelligence collection and sites of possible future FROG deployment.

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 3. NAME OF REQUESTER | 4. NAME OF D/GG ANALYST |
| [REDACTED] MRA | [REDACTED] |

5. COORDINATION WITH OTHER OFFICES

6. DUE DATE

20 December 65

7. PROJECT NUMBER

60.1944 AB

8. REMARKS:

Follow-up may be asked by requester or others.

CIA/BI GB 66-19 Geographic Background on East German Army Exercise with Live FROG Firing.

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